

States Capitol, cannot be told without fully and accurately reflecting the contributions of enslaved African-Americans. According to the History of Slave Laborers in the Construction of the United States Capitol report, there is documentation that slave labor was employed from 1795 to 1801 for the construction of this building. African American slaves participated in almost every aspect of construction of the U.S. Capitol, completing such tasks as removing tress, quarrying stone, painting, and roofing. Evidence of their work can be seen in the columns of Statuary Hall and the Old Senate Chamber. Their story is a story that must be told for it is our collective story, the great American story.

After nearly 200 years, it is time for America to acknowledge these individuals who contributed to one of our nation's symbols of freedom while never having the opportunity to experience it themselves. Constructing a historical marker that includes the original stone used to build the Capitol is an outstanding tribute to African American slaves that will teach all who visit the Capitol of our nation's past as well as her future.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and recognizing the work of enslaved African Americans in the building of the U.S. Capitol by voting in support of this important resolution.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 8, 2009*

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican standards on member requests, I am submitting the following information regarding congressionally directed appropriation projects I sponsored as part of H.R. 2997, FY 2010 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

Agency/Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture RE/FA

Amount: \$1,730,000

Requesting Entity: Texas Tech University, 2500 Broadway, Lubbock, TX 79409

The Cotton Production and Research Center is a multidisciplinary cotton research program for the Southwest cotton production region that serves as a market and policy analysis program for natural fibers. The research focuses on maximizing efficiency for regional and U.S. cotton production, marketing and trade. Overall, the project goals are to: develop new information and technologies, increase cotton and textile production, reduce costs, improve market efficiency, increase exports, and improve the U.S. textile industry's global competitiveness.

Agency/Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture RE/FA

Amount: \$946,000

Requesting Entity: Texas Tech University, 2500 Broadway, Lubbock, TX 79409

The International Center for Food Industry Excellence proposes to build upon the expertise available at Texas Tech University and its collaborating institutions. Center-affiliated researchers will develop and evaluate food innovations that improve the security, safety, functional properties, nutritional quality, eating

quality, and consumer acceptance and production characteristics of food available to U.S. consumers. Center scientists engage in innovative research across the farm-to-table continuum to improve food safety, expand uses for existing commodities and identify consumer behaviors and attributes that influence food acceptability and marketability.

Agency/Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture SRG

Amount: \$515,000

Requesting Entity: Texas Tech University, 2500 Broadway, Lubbock, TX 79409

The Great Plains Sorghum Improvement and Utilization Center will build on the Kansas Sorghum Improvement Center, initiated in 2001, by pooling and integrating the research and extension resources for sorghum improvement, utilization, production and marketing located at Kansas State University, Texas Tech University, and Texas A&M University (including USDA-ARS scientists located on those campuses with assigned sorghum responsibilities). Efforts among the three institutions will be integrated to bring new technologies and knowledge together and focus on improvement of profitability in each stage of sorghum production, processing, and marketing.

#### CONGRATULATING VEVAY, INDIANA

#### HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 8, 2009*

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on April 15th, CBS's Early Show announced Budget Travel Magazine's Top 10 "America's Coolest Small Towns", ranking Vevay, Indiana, Number 4. I would like to give my heartfelt congratulations to the Vevay community and all of Switzerland County.

Vevay was selected based on the "quality of life, arts and restaurant scenes and proximity to nature" of the town. The Swiss Wine Festival, events such as First Fridays and Second Saturdays, art galleries, and local restaurants all contributed to receiving this honor. Close to 8,000 people voted for Vevay.

As Vevay's representative in Congress, I can certainly attest to its merit in winning this award. I always enjoy visiting Vevay, and while biased, think it should have been ranked Number 1!

Again, congratulations to the residents of Vevay. This distinction is much deserved, and I am proud to represent you in the Ninth District.

#### REMEMBERING MICHAEL JACKSON

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 8, 2009*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a consummate performer, Michael Jackson, a man whose music bridged racial and generational divides, whose generous charity combated global poverty, whose kind and gentle spirit endeared him to millions. Thousands of people gathered outside the historic Apollo Theatre in my district last week,

standing for hours to enter an at-times raucous, at-times somber memorial to the late singer. Along with Rev. Al Sharpton, film director Spike Lee, and Apollo President and CEO Jonelle Procope, I joined a packed crowd of Jackson fans on the very stage he began his career in 1967, winning the Apollo's Amateur Night contest with his four brothers, the Jackson Five. We were there because his singing and dancing remain unmatched. We were there because he was as much an institution in our community as the legendary theatre we sat in. We were there because, all over this world, his love and warmth should and will be maintained.

As a young boy who dreamt big and often, Michael Jackson sustained a decades-long career he began as a child in Gary, Indiana. He is a testament to young people everywhere that dreams are worth pursuing—regardless of their size or scope. In this America, all great things are possible. He grew up before us all, adapting his style to match each passing decade and leaving a series of catchy, easily recognizable hits along the way. Jackson's music captured our imagination and never let go. His records are gifts he has left us and our posterity as remnants of a time that will live on in American history.

As a person of color, who came to be highly regarded by Americans of all colors, he opened the door for other minorities to dare to achieve big. His music and dance moves were welcomed into living rooms across the country, without regard to his race. It was a harbinger of great things to come—Tiger Woods remains the best athlete in a sport not known for its diversity, the Top 40 Billboard charts feature a mix of Black and White musicians alike, and last January, we inaugurated this country's first African American President. His legacy eclipses its impact on the recording industry, the entertainment business, or even Hollywood—his life taught us an important lesson about race, about hard work, and about ourselves.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 8, 2009*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2847 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requested by Rep. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN  
Bill number: H.R. 2487

Account: Department of Justice, Byrne Discretionary Grants

Amount: \$500,000

Project: Human Trafficking Initiative

Requested by: St. Thomas University.  
16401 NW 37th Avenue Miami Gardens, FL 33054

St. Thomas University seeks support for an initiative that will provide essential educational and training services to law enforcement, immigration services, government employees directly involved with service providing to trafficking victims, as well as to private organizations and individuals as well as to generate